

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 175863

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ORIGIN AGR-20

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DRAFTED BY: USDA:FAS:GOFRASER

APPROVED BY: EUR/SOV:SPOLANSKY

EHALLOWELL, FAS

BMEEKER, FAS

ATRICK, FAS

AGRIC:ERBEVIS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: US/USSR AGRICULTURE AGREEMENT--SPRING WHEAT TEAM

REF: A. STATE 172039; B. MOSCOW 12307

1. IN REF A, WE ADVISED PROPOSED ADDITIONAL OF LEADING SPRING WHEAT BREEDING SPECIALIST AS MEANS OF HELPING MEET SOVIET COMPLAINT ABOUT LACK OF BENEFIT TO THEM OF SO-CALLED OBSERVATION TEAMS. WE NOTE, HOWEVER, IN REF B THAT SOVIETS MAKING ARRANGEMENTS ONLY FOR SHAW, MCDONALD AND SEVERIN. FOR THIS PURPOSE AS NOTED IN SEPTTEL WE HAVE ARRANGED FOR DR. ROBERT E. HEINER OF ARS TO ACCOMPANY SPRING WHEAT TEAM. DR. HEINER IS ONE OF LEADING U.S. SPRING WHEAT GENETICISTS

AND WOULD BE IN POSITION TO ADVISE SOVIET COUNTERPARTS OF U.S. BREEDING PROGRAM TO INCREASE YIELDS, DISEASE AND DROUGHT RESISTANCE OF SPRING WHEAT.

2. IF POSSIBLE, ARS WOULD LIKE TO HAVE DR. HEINER ALSO VISIT

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PAGE 02 STATE 175863

PUSHKIN RESEARCH CENTER AFTER COMPLETION OF SPRING WHEAT TEAM

SCHEDULE. THIS SHOULD BE VALUABLE TO SOVIETS ALSO, BUT IF NOT ACCEPTABLE TO SOVIETS, THIS SHOULD NOT BE PUSHED.

3. AGATT SHOULD ASCERTAIN FROM MINAG ASAP IF INCLUSION OF DR. HEINER ON SPRING WHEAT TEAM ACCEPTABLE AND ADVISE USDA BY IMMEDIATE CABLE. KISSINGER

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